

## Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EUR-12

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EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MTDIXON:BG

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

EB/AN - JMAGNOR

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CAB - RMILLER (INFO)

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R 040000Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652/N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UR, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CURRENT BILATERAL TALKS

REF: STATE 226192 AND PREVIOUS

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE CALLED IN SOVIET MINISTER COUNSELOR VASEV OCTOBER 3 TO INFORM HIM OF USG PROPOSAL TO CONVENE CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17.

2. IN ORAL PRESENTATION ARMITAGE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:  
(1) ESSENTIAL U.S. OBJECTIVE IN PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS IS ATTAINMENT OF EQUITABLE BENEFITS TO AMERICAN CARRIERS - A SITUATION WHICH THE JUNE 1975 AEROFLOT-PAN AM AGREEMENT DOES NOT FOSTER; (2) THE PROPOSED PLACE AND DATE OF TALKS IS DUE TO HEAVY SCHEDULE OF U.S. AVIATION AUTHORITIES  
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WHICH WOULD NOT ALLOW THEM TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS IN

MOSCOW BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR; (3) UPON EXPIRATION OF THE CURRENT FREQUENCY AGREEMENT (OCTOBER 31) PAN AM AND AEROFLOT WILL RETURN TO A FREQUENCY LEVEL OF TWO FLIGHTS PER WEEK, BUT U.S. IS OPEN TO SOVIET PROPOSALS

FOR OTHER FREQUENCY LEVELS DURING PERIOD OF EXPIRATION OF AGREEMENT AND CONCLUSION OF TALKS; (4) SINCE USG HAS AGREED TO BEGIN TALKS WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT SOVIETS WILL RESPOND FAVORABLY TO CHARTER REQUESTS BY WORLD AIRWAYS.

3. VASEV REPLIED THAT NEGOTIATING DATE, WHILE "LATE", IS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION AND THAT HE WOULD REPORT U.S. PROPOSAL TO SOVIET AVIATION AUTHORITIES. HE STATED THAT U.S. EXPECTATION FOR POSITIVE SOVIET RESPONSE ON WORLD AIRWAYS REQUEST IS PARAMOUNT TO "PREJUDGING" OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS BUT INQUIRED IF APPROVAL OF WORLD AIRWAYS PROGRAM WOULD RESULT IN REVERSAL OF CAB DENIAL OF AEROFLOT CHARTER REQUESTS. ARMITAGE POINTED OUT THAT DATA IN RECENT MONTHS INDICATES AEROFLOT CHARTERS ARE HEAVILY FAVORED AND THAT WORLD AIRWAYS TWENTY-FLIGHT PROGRAM WOULD EASILY BE ABSORBED IN BALANCE OF ANTICIPATED CHARTER FLIGHTS BETWEEN U.S. AND USSR. HE INDICATED THAT POSITIVE SOVIET DECISION WOULD HAVE DIRECT INFLUENCE ON CAB ACTIONS. VASEV STATED HE WOULD INFORM US OF SOVIET RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL AND POSSIBLE INTERIM FREQUENCY ARRANGEMENT.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NON-PAPER PRESENTED TO VASEV DURING MEETING:

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEREBY INFORMS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS THAT, IN RESPONDE TO ITS REQUEST, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO DISCUSS CIVIL AVIATION QUESTIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE RECENTLY PROPOSED AEROFLOT-PAN AMERICAN DOES NOT OFFER EQUITABLE BENEFITS TO THE US-DESIGNATED AIRLINE AND IS ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE IN KEEPING WITH AVIATION INTERETS OF BOTH COUNTRIES.

THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE ABOVE TALKS BE HELD IN WASHINGTON DURING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17.

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ON EXPIRATION OF THE PRESENT AGREEMENT ON FREQUENCIES, ON OCTOBER 31,

THE DESIGNATED CARRIERS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION, WILL RETURN TO THE FREQUENCY LEVEL OF TWO FLIGHTS PER WEEK FOR THE WINTER SEASON. IF THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES WISH TO PROPOSE SOME OTHER FREQUENCY LEVEL DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT AND THE BEGINNING OF THESE TALKS, THE U.S. AUTHORITIES WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SUCH INTERIM ARRANGEMENT. KISSINGER

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